

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 242781
ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 IO-13 FEA-01
ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-05
ACDA-07 /126 R

DRAFTED BY TREAS:OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL:SOMMERFIE
APPROVED BY AF-WBEDMONDSON
EUR/NE:SHUMATE
AF/S-DKPETTERSON
EB/ITP/EWT-PBLAKEBURN

-----022854 090202Z /75

R 090043Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, ESTC, RH, ENRG

SUBJECT: ALLEGED DIVERSIONS TO RHODESIA BY MOBIL OIL
SOUTHER' AFRICA (PTY) LIMITED

REF: STATE 114293, B) LONDON A-183

1. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY HAS INVESTIGATED ALLEGATIONS
BY THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST THAT THE MOBIL OIL
CORPORATION'S SOUTH AFRICAN SUBSIDIARY HAD SUPPLIED
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TO SOUTHERN RHODESIA THROUGH "CLOAKS"
IN SOUTH AFRICA IN VIOLATION OF US REGULATIONS. TREASURY'S
REPORT OF ITS INVESTIGATION WAS MADE PUBLIC IN MAY 1977.

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THE RESULTS WERE INCONCLUSIVE. IN INVESTIGATING THE
ALLEGATIONS AGAINST MOBIL, TREASURY SUBPENAED MOBIL/US TO
PRODUCE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS FROM THE FILES OF ITS SUB-
SIDIARIES, MOBIL OIL SOUTHERN AFRICA (PTY) LIMITED AND
MOBIL OIL SOUTHERN RHODESIA (PVT)LIMITED. EFFORTS BY
TREASURY AND MOBIL/US TO OBTAIN THE DOCUMENTS WERE UN-
SUCCESSFUL IN VIEW OF THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACTS OF THESE

COUNTRIES.

2. IT HAS RECENTLY BEEN ALLEGED THAT, IN ADDITION TO
THE MOVEMENT OF GASOLINE AND OIL DIRECTLY FROM

SOUTH AFRICA TO SOUTHERN RHODESIA, SUCH PRODUCTS WERE ALSO
SHIPPED TO RHODESIA BY MOBIL AND CALTEX THROUGH THE PORTS
OF MAPUTO AND BEIRA, WHERE THE PETROLEUM WAS ENTERED IN
BOND AND SUBSEQUENTLY RAILED TO RHODESIA.

3. TREASURY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT MR. R.W. ROWLAND, CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LONRHO LIMITED, A BRITISH MULTINATION-
AL FIRM WITH EXTENSIVE DEALINGS IN AFRICA, HAS ALSO
CHARGED THAT FIVE MAJOR OIL COMPANIES, INCLUDING MOBIL AND
CALTEX, HAD UP TO 1974, CONTINUED TO VIOLATE UN SANCTIONS
BY EFFECTING THE SHIPMENT OF OIL AND GASOLINE TO RHODESIA
THROUGH THE MOZAMBIQUE PORTS OF BEIRA AND MAPUTO.

4. ACCORDINGLY, THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT THE EMBASSY
CONTACT MR. ROWLAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING:
A) WHETHER MR. ROWLAND HAS IN HIS POSSESSION DOCUMENTARY
EVIDENCE SUPPORTING HIS ALLEGATIONS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED
THAT WE ARE FAMILIAR WITH DOCUMENTS ROWLAND PREVIOUSLY
SUPPLIED UK AUTHORITIES (LONDON A-183). THESE DOCUMENTS
ARE NOT USEFUL FOR THIS PURPOSE, SINCE THEY ONLY RELATE
TO ACTIVITIES DURING 1965 WHEN MANDATORY SANCTIONS WERE NOT
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IN EFFECT. WE ARE INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN EVIDENCE
WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH ACTUAL TRANSACTIONS EFFECTED AFTER
DECEMBER 1966.

B) WHETHER MR. ROWLAND WOULD MAKE SUCH DOCUMENTS
AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION.

C) WHETHER MR. ROWLAND WOULD SUBMIT ANSWERS TO WRITTEN
INTERROGATORIES, OR TO AN ORAL INTERVIEW BY REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE US TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM HMG OF PLANNED APPROACH TO
ROWLAND BEFORE CONTACTING HIM. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN AF-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-03 /007 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:AF/S:JNACH
APPROVED BY:AF/WBEDMONDSON
-----005198 291920Z /14
R 290430Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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FOL SECSTATE 242781 SENT ACTION LONDON INFO PRETORIA OCT 9,
1977 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, REGULATIONS, ALLEGATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Film Number: D770369-0262
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: PFOR, PORG, ESTC, ENRG, RH, US, MOBIL OIL
To: LONDON
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